

7 (amended). An isolated murine embryonic stem cell line comprising an engineered retroviral gene trap vector in at least one gene comprising a polynucleotide sequence identifiable as encoding SEQ ID NO: 393.

RESPONSE

I. Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has determined that the original claims are directed to three separate and distinct inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121, as follows:

Group 1: Claims 1-7, drawn to cells comprising a mutation in a gene comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1, classified in class 435, subclass 354.

Group 2-890: Claims 1-7, drawn to cells comprising a mutation in a gene comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2-890, respectively, classified in class 435, subclass 354.

Group 891: Claims 1-7, drawn to cells comprising a mutation in a gene comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 891, classified in class 435, subclass 354.

II. Response to Restriction Requirement

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed December 17, 2002 (Paper No. 12), Applicants hereby elect without traverse to prosecute the claim of Group 393. Applicants reserve the right to refile claims to the non-elected inventions in one or more future applications retaining the priority date of the present case and the earlier cited priority applications.

III. Status of the Claims

No claims have been cancelled. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. Applicants have elected SEQ ID NO: 393 for sequence searching and examination. Therefore, claims 1-7 are presently pending in the case. In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii), a marked up copy of the original claims is

attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. For the convenience of the Examiner, a clean copy of the pending claims is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.

IV. Conclusion

The present document is a complete response to the Sequence Election Requirement. Applicants believe that the claims of the instant application meet all of the conditions for patentability and are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early indication of the same is respectfully requested. Should ExaminerFalk have any questions or comments, or believe that certain amendments of the claims might serve to improve their clarity, a telephone call to the undersigned Applicants' representative is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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